

Anyone and everyone who has and will be baptized will forever be walking wet in our world. When we are baptized, we are made new and called by name to be claimed in the name of the Lord. In biblical times, baptism was traditionally done in a river. The priest would fully submerge the people in the river and then bring them back up. This signified that our old self would die and be left in the river, and our new self would rise out of the water. The people of biblical times did not necessarily see water as cleansing; however, they feared water because many sailors would drown in the seas. This is why they felt that our old self would die in the river and we would be made new and enter the community of God's people.

We are not alone as we walk wet in our world, we will not only always have God on our side, but we are a member of an entire community of faith, meaning that we will have others that will be there to walk wet with us. Since being wet is associated with being clean, we are walking clean in the light of God.

Baptism brings newness. There are many personifications of newness in our world. One of these personifications is fire. Although fire destroys, it also cleanses and brings warmth. A forest fire can destroy an entire forest and leave nothing but ashes, yet out of these ashes a new forest will grow and new life will flourish, similar to baptism: our old self dies and our new clean self arises. The season of spring can also come to mind. Spring is the renewal of life from a cold dead winter. The snow melts, warmth and light return, and the barren Earth becomes green and alive again. Even the mythological phoenix can have a connection to baptism. When the phoenix grows old and dies, it turns to ash; however, out of these ashes a new phoenix emerges alive and well, just like what happens to us when we are baptized.

When we are baptized and join the people of God, the Holy Spirit comes and dwells in us forever, like what happened to the apostles on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit will always be there to comfort and sustain us as we walk wet through the world.

Still, being baptized does not mean we will never sin again; we will inevitably sin many times over our lifetime. Committing a sin does not make us a bad Christian. There is no such thing as a good or bad Christian. We can only be a good or bad steward. We have been marked at baptism with the cross and this mark will never leave us as long as we have faith in the Lord. We will also receive God's grace, always no matter what.

In conclusion, at baptism we are washed and made new, also God calls us by name and claims us with the sign of the cross. This mark will never go away, and no one will ever take us away from God. We will be his now and forever, and join him in his kingdom in Heaven.